

Professor Robert S. Kaplan Receives

2006 Lifetime Contribution to Management Accounting Award

Robert S. Kaplan, Baker Foundation Professor at the Harvard Business School, joined the Harvard Business School in 1984 after 16 years on the faculty of the business school at Carnegie-Mellon University, where he served as Dean from 1977 to 1983. He received a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from M.I.T., and a Ph.D. in Operations Research from Cornell University.

Bob's research, teaching, and consulting focus on linking cost and performance management systems to strategy implementation and operational excellence. He has authored or co-authored 15 books, over 100 articles or papers, and numerous cases. His work has stimulated a great deal of research by others and has significantly affected practice.

In the 1980's, Bob sounded a wake-up call to management accountants to change or else become irrelevant. The change required costing systems to keep pace as technologies and competitive environments change, and a stronger focus on the management accountant as an integral part of the management team. Bob then co-developed and refined activity-based costing and activity-based management. His most recent work in this line has led to time-driven activity-based costing as a simpler and more flexible approach for implementing activity-based costing.

Bob is also a co-developer of the Balanced Scorecard as a strategic performance measurement and management system. He has written numerous articles and four books on this topic, including *Alignment*, to be published in February 2006. He consults on the design of performance and cost management systems with many leading companies, and regularly offers seminars around the world.

Bob is a three-time winner of the Management Accounting Section's Notable Contributions to Management Accounting Literature Award for these co-authored books: *Relevance Lost: The Rise and Fall of Management Accounting*, *Implementing Activity-Based Cost Management: Moving from Analysis to Action*, and *The Balanced Scorecard: Translating Strategy into Action*. *The Balanced Scorecard* has been translated into 22 languages and received the 2001 American Accounting Association Wildman Medal in recognition of its impact on practice. Among other awards, Bob received the American Accounting Association's Outstanding Accounting Educator Award in 1988 and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants' Outstanding Contributions to the Accountancy Profession Award in 1994. In 2001, he received the Institute of Management Accountants' Distinguished Service Award for contributions to practice and the academic community.